



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yuuji SAIKI et al.

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For: OPTICAL MEMBER AND LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY

DECLARATION UNDER RULE 1.132

Commissioner for Patents

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Sir:

I, Yuuji SAIKI, a citizen of Japan and residing at 1-1-2, Shimohozumi, Ibaraki-shi, Osaka, 567-8680 Japan, c/o: BASIC PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SECTION, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CENTER, OPTICAL RELATED PRODUCTS DIVISION of NITTO DENKO CORPORATION, declare and Say as follows:

1. I was graduated from Department of Chemical Science Engineering, faculty of Engineering, Kobe University in 1989.

2. Since 1995 to the present time, I have been employed by NITTO DENKO CORPORATION.

3. I am a member of the society of Polymer Science, Japan.

4. I am one of the inventors of the above-identified application and am familiar with the subject matter thereof.

5. I have read the Official Action mailed and the references cited therein and are familiar with the subject matter thereof.

6. Contents of Experiments:

Experiments were conducted about examples of the cited reference (Arakawa et al. US 5972473) for comparison with examples in the specification as filed.

The protection films (samples) having an outer surface roughness Ra of 0.02 to 3.95  $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively, were prepared in order to observe the transparency in the visual inspection, according to the description in the specification as filed.

And Haze value (%) were measured with HAZEMETER HM-150 made by Murakami Color Research Laboratory and a transparency were confirmed by a visual inspection in a condition of under fluorescent lamp of 60W to each above mentioned samples on a black board.

Results: shown in Table 1 and Figure 1

Discussion:

Samples having Ra of more than 2  $\mu\text{m}$  as are the case of the cited reference (Arakawa et al. US 5972473) have high Haze value, and the transmitted light is scattered or reflected on the these samples. Consequently, the transparencies of these samples were confirmed "cloudy". The protection film which has Ra of 2  $\mu\text{m}$  or more like Arakawa cannot be applied to the visual inspection in the optical field (polarizing plate, etc.).

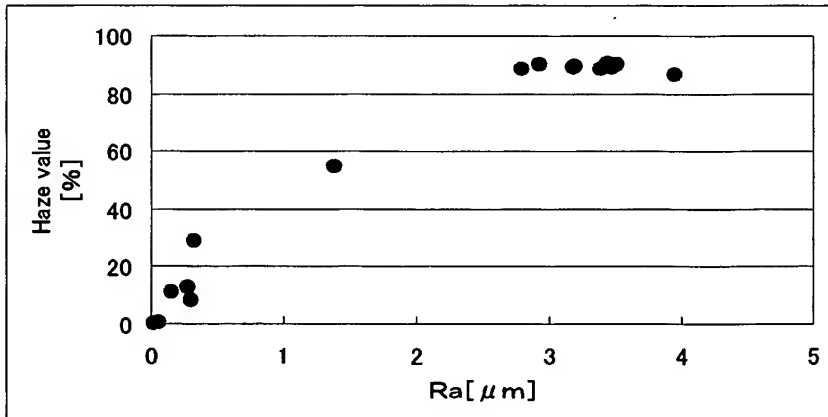
On the other hand, samples having Ra of less than 2  $\mu\text{m}$  as are related to the present invention have low Haze value, and the transparencies of these samples were confirmed "transparent" or "slightly cloudy".

As for the films in the cited reference (Arakawa et al. US 5972473) have high Haze value, as compared with the films in the present invention, is insufficient in transparency. As a result, Arakawa cannot be applied to the present invention because as described above, in Arakawa, no transparency in the visual inspection is required.

Table 1

| Ra ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) | Haze value (%) | transparency visual inspection |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 0.02                 | 0.1            | transparent                    |
| 0.06                 | 0.3            | transparent                    |
| 0.16                 | 11.2           | slightly cloudy                |
| 0.28                 | 12.6           | slightly cloudy                |
| 0.30                 | 8.0            | slightly cloudy                |
| 0.33                 | 28.6           | slightly cloudy                |
| 1.39                 | 54.6           | little cloudy                  |
| 2.80                 | 88.2           | cloudy                         |
| 2.93                 | 89.8           | cloudy                         |
| 3.18                 | 88.7           | cloudy                         |
| 3.19                 | 89.6           | cloudy                         |
| 3.40                 | 88.5           | cloudy                         |
| 3.44                 | 90.2           | cloudy                         |
| 3.48                 | 89.0           | cloudy                         |
| 3.51                 | 90.1           | cloudy                         |
| 3.95                 | 86.4           | cloudy                         |

Figure 1





7. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified application or any patent issuing thereon.

this       day of       , 2005 1 26

Yuuji SAIKI